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he was appointed to the honored post of physician and superintendent of the McLean Asylum for the Insane at Somerville, made vacant by the resignation of Dr. Bell. This was in 1858. Here he remained till the spring of 1871, when he was compelled by failing health to offer his resignation. It was during this long term of service at Somerville that Dr. Tyler showed that marked executive ability, sound judgment, knowledge, and skill which have made his name famous in this and in other countries. His official reports while at the head of the McLean Asylum have been largely quoted, and are recognized by the profession as among the ablest and best in this department of medical literature.

Dr. Tyler twice visited Europe, where he enlarged and enriched his knowledge of his favorite science, and was received by his *confrères* in the Psychological Associations of Great Britain and Ireland with marked courtesy and attention. Upon his retirement from hospital life, he took up his residence in Boston, where he soon acquired a large consulting practice in his specialty. In 1871, he was appointed to the chair of mental diseases in the medical department of Harvard University, having previously been connected with the Medical School as University lecturer on the same subject. In recent years, Dr. Tyler held several important posts in connection with our city and State commissions. He was also a trustee, under the will of the late Seth Adams, of the proposed institution for the treatment of nervous diseases. In all these official capacities, as well as in his professional and social relations, Dr. Tyler was a man of singularly pure and unblemished life. He was a devoted and successful physician, an exact scientist, a faithful and conscientious worker in the difficult and delicate sphere of duty in which for the greater part of his life he was especially called to serve.

J. P. KIRTLAND.

DR. J. P. KIRTLAND died in Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 10, 1877, aged eighty-five years. He was one of the last of our older naturalists like Say, Audubon, and Henry, — men who were young when zoölogy and physics were young, and who, from an inborn love of nature and an enthusiasm for knowledge, were enabled to create methods and to make discoveries. He was born in Connecticut, and even in boyhood showed a strong taste for horticulture, so that at twelve he had a neat garden of his own, and was a skilful budder and grafter. He studied too the Linnæan system of botany, raised silk-worms, and began bee

culture, a pursuit he steadily continued for nearly seventy years. After studying medicine at Yale College and in Philadelphia, and after some years of practice in Connecticut, he moved to Ohio, where he spent the remainder of his long life. While busily following his calling of physician, he found time for a great deal of other work. During a quarter of a century, he was professor of medicine. In 1848, he worked up the natural history of Ohio, as part of the geological survey of that State. Not the least valuable portion was an account of the fishes, which was published, with plates, in the "Journal of the Boston Society of Natural History," and which still stands as a work of authority. He wrote also valuable papers on sexualism among the naiades. The growing of fruit he pursued during his whole life, and was very successful, especially in producing new varieties of cherries. It is scarcely necessary to add that in this respect he was a public benefactor.

Such a man is always interesting. The peculiarities which make him what he is, and the native energy and originality which have held him up, give a certain freshness of character rarely found among men of strictly academic training.

ELIAS MAGNUS FRIES.

ELIAS MAGNUS FRIES died at Upsal on February 8, in the eighty-fourth year of his age, five months after the celebration, in which he was able to take some part, of the four hundredth anniversary of the foundation of that University, and a month after the hundredth anniversary of the death of Linnæus. Born, as was Linnæus, in Smoland, a southern province of Sweden, and like him called in middle age to the renowned Scandinavian University, he might be regarded as the most distinguished of Linnæus's successors, except for the fact that he did not occupy the chair of Linnæus; for when, more than forty years ago, Fries, then Demonstrator of Botany at Lund, was called to Upsal, Wahlenberg was in the botanical chair, and Fries was made professor of Practical Economy. His son, however, by the retirement of Areschoug, is now the botanical professor.

Fries's earliest work, the first part of his *Novitiæ*, appeared in the year 1814, when the author was only twenty years old. His last of any moment, a new edition of his *Hymenomycetes Europæi*, was published on his eighty-first birthday, Aug. 15, 1874. Most of the sixty intervening years are marked by some publication from his busy and careful hand. His work was wholly in systematic botany, and of